



**PD Dr. Karoline Krause**  
Director



**Prof. Franz Theuring**  
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**Assistant Professor of Dermatology, Department of Dermatology and Allergy**  
**Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany**

Karoline Krause, M.D., is Assistant Professor of Dermatology at the Department of Dermatology and Allergy, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany. She received her medical degree and completed her residency in Dermatology at the University of Hamburg, Germany. Since 2008, Dr. Krause has served as a Dermatologist and Allergist at her current institution. She obtained an additional health care management qualification in 2011 and completed her habilitation on the differential diagnosis and treatment of urticarial diseases in 2013.

She is founder and coordinator of the interdisciplinary Autoinflammation Reference Center Charité (ARC<sup>2</sup>), a joint initiative of the Depts. of Dermatology and Allergy, Pediatrics, Rheumatology, Neurology and Ophthalmology to enhance research and to improve the management of autoinflammatory diseases. Also, she heads the specialty outpatient clinics for Dermatologic Allergology at the Department of Dermatology.

Dr. Krause initiated and directed multiple clinical trials and translational projects in the field of dermatology and allergy. Her main clinical and scientific areas of research are inflammatory skin diseases including urticaria and other mast cell-driven diseases, autoinflammatory syndromes and pruritus.

Since 2015, she has been continuously involved as project leader and advisor in the SPARK-BIH program. Her two projects focusing on the development of novel treatment strategies for systemic autoinflammatory and chronic skin diseases were both funded by the Stiftung Charité. Based on her recent achievements, she is currently planning a phase 2 clinical study in contact dermatitis. Since 2020, she serves as the director of SPARK-BIH Berlin together with Franz Theuring. Besides these activities, Dr. Krause has served as scientific advisor for the European Medicines Agency (EMA) as clinical expert for autoinflammatory diseases. Also, she has provided consulting services on therapeutic strategies in chronic inflammatory skin and systemic diseases for several pharmaceutical companies.

**Prof. Dr. Franz Theuring**  
**Institut für Pharmakologie, Center for Cardiovascular Research (CCR)**  
**Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany**

Professor Franz Theuring, PhD, studied electronics and biology at the Universities of Braunschweig and Goettingen, Germany. He gained his PhD in 1986 in the Institute of Human Genetics, University of Goettingen, and was post-doctoral research fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry under Professor Peter Gruss. Professor Theuring was responsible for the establishment and introduction of transgenic technologies both in the Gruss laboratory, and then from 1988 in the Institute of Cellular and Molecular Biology of Schering AG, Berlin, where he had responsibility for implementation of transgenic technologies in areas of pharmacological research for drug target validation and model development at Schering.

Professor Theuring received his Habilitation from the Free University of Berlin in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry in 1996, and after 8 years at Schering AG, was appointed in 1996 to a Professorship in Molecular Pharmacology at the Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin.

Prof. Theuring is an acknowledged expert in employing transgenic technologies in biomedicine. He is consultant to the Berlin State in Biotechnology, to the European Union in Molecular Medicine and to Pharmaceutical Industry. He was elected as Member of the Berlin Scientific Society (BWG) and acted as the President from 2014-2017.

In 2000, he spent 3.5 month on a sabbatical leave at the Centre for Animal Resources and Development (CARD) at Kumamoto University, Japan. Furthermore, he is the co-founder of two biotech companies, Proteome Factory, based in Berlin, and TauRx Pharma, based in Singapore. Since 2015 Prof. Theuring is engaged in activities of SPARK-BIH Berlin, an academic initiative to accelerate breakthrough findings into medicines, diagnostics and medical devices. Since 2020 he's acting as one of the two directors of the SPARK initiative.